

REMARKS


In the Advisory action mailed 6 December 2004, the Examiner contends that U.S. patent No. 5,097,627 to Roberts discloses slots which are configured to allow slidable movement.

Roberts discloses an apparatus comprising a pitch screw (26) contained within a screw housing (28) which is rotated by a chain drive system (60) to move plants (34) and holders (32). (See col. 7, ln. 46-57.) This arrangement teaches away from "slots configured to allow slidable movement", as recited in claim 1 as amended in the Amendment dated 9 November 2004, since in Roberts the movement of the plants and plant holders is constrained by the pitch screw. Furthermore, Roberts does not disclose a rotary plant-growing apparatus.

Accordingly, it is submitted that claims 1-17, as amended in the Amendment dated 9 November 2004, are patentable over Roberts.

Respectfully submitted,

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